



May 26, 2005

Possible Amendments to the Military Quality of Life and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2006 (H.R. 2528)

The following contains information on the three amendments that have been pre-printed in the *Congressional Record* and one other amendment not pre-printed that may also be offered. Under an open rule (H.Res. 298 in this case), amendments do not need to be pre-printed and may be offered at any time without prior notice. However, the rule does accord priority for Members with pre-printed amendments.

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Amendments Pre-Printed in the Congressional Record

1. Kucinich (D-OH). Increases by \$15 million (and reduces by the same amount) the funds for research, development, testing, and evaluation in the Defense Health Program. *(An amendment of this nature would not actually alter the funding for the program but would allow issues regarding this program to be discussed and debated on the House floor.)*

2. Blumenauer (D-OR). Increases funds for the 1990 account of the DoD Base Closure Account by **\$351 million** (funded in the underlying bill at \$377.8 million) and reduces funds for the 2005 account of the DoD Base Closure Account by **\$351 million** (funded in the underlying bill at \$1.57 billion). The amendment sponsor has asserted that there are bases from the first BRAC round (in 1988) that require additional attention (such as environmental clean-up).

3. Blumenauer (D-OR). Increases funds for the 1990 account of the DoD Base Closure Account by **\$55 million** (funded in the underlying bill at \$377.8 million) and reduces funds for the 2005 account of the DoD Base Closure Account by **\$55 million** (funded in the underlying bill at \$1.57 billion). The amendment sponsor has asserted that there are bases from the first BRAC round (in 1988) that require additional attention (such as environmental clean-up).

Other Possible Amendment

Obey (D-WI). **(Actual amendment text not available at press time.)** Reportedly increases funds for veterans health care by \$2.6 billion (already funded in the underlying bill at about \$21 billion—a \$1.7 billion increase over last year and \$1 billion over the President's FY2006 request). According to press reports, the Obey increase would be offset by repealing portions of

the Bush tax cuts. *(A similar amendment failed during committee mark-up by a vote of 27-34. If the spending increase is not offset, or depending on what offset is used, the amendment likely will be subject to a point of order on the House floor.)*
